Amendments to Standing Orders.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I move that the amendments to Standing Orders be taken up and passed.

President.—You may specify the Nos. of the Standing Orders. That would be more formal.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—On a point of order. According to the Agenda after questions and answers item 2 is election.

President.—Thank you very much. As this business has been taken up, may I finish it with the permission of the House? I missed it.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The President has the power to regulate the agenda.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—This is about the amendments on which the Select Committee has sent a report and considered by this House yesterday. They are Standing Order No. 4 (2), Standing Order No. 35 and Standing Order No. 37.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I second it.

Motion put and carried.

Election of Members to the Standing Finance Committee.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I beg to move that Messrs. Paul Mampilli, M. Krishna Menon and T. K. Nayar be elected as non-official members of the Standing Finance Committee.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—I second it.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—There is no dissenting voice. So, they are elected unanimously.

Motion put and carried.

Civil Marriage Bill.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—I rise to present the report of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Cochin Civil Marriage Bill. I move that the Bill, as amended by the Select Committee, be taken up for consideration.

Mr. P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri.—I second this Bill.

At the first reading of the Bill by referring it to a Select Committee, this House has accepted the main principles and the general provisions of the Bill. Now to reject this Bill on the ground that it is unwanted or unnecessary would be inconsistent with our previous position and would mean that we have simply wasted much of our precious time and public money on this account. Therefore, I appeal to the Hon'ble Members of this House to examine their position very carefully and view their responsibility in this matter.

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